

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph at page 1, lines 17-22, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 1 shows ~~the first, «fluted»~~ a fluted type of seal, where a metallic core 1B is surrounded by two thin layers of graphite 1A. The metallic core 1B has flutes on its surface so that the graphite layers 1A can penetrate slightly into the metallic core 1B so as to result in the tightening of the joint.

Please replace the paragraph at page 1, lines 23-26, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 2 shows a ~~second, «wavy»~~ wavy type of seal, where a central metal layer 2B with a wavy shape is covered on its two surfaces by a graphite layer 2A, also adopting the wavy shape.

Please replace the paragraph at page 1, lines 27-29, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 3 shows a ~~third, «spiralled»~~ spiralled type of seal, where a graphite spiral 3A is wrapped together with a metal spiral 3B.

Please replace the paragraph at page 2, lines 1-3, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 4 shows a ~~fourth, «metalloplastic»~~ metalloplastic type of seal, where the central core 4A is ~~in~~ graphite and is wrapped in a metal envelope 4B, in two parts.

Please replace the paragraph at page 2, lines 4-7, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Finally, a ~~fifth, «all graphite»~~ an all graphite type of seal is represented in figure 5, where a central core 5A is a square or rectangular section and is wrapped on each side by two massive metal rings 5B.

Please replace the paragraph at page 2, lines 8-16, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In all these types of metalloplastic seals, the asbestos has gradually given way to flexible graphite, also called ~~«expanded graphite»~~ expanded graphite. This is used directly as a sealing material ~~i.e. such that~~ it is in direct contact with the components between which the seal must be provided, i.e. flanges. This is the case, for example, with spiral, wavy, and fluted seals with a lining. It is also ~~used~~ indirectly used as a lining element, particularly with metalloplastic seals.

Please replace the paragraph at page 2, lines 17-26, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Replacing the asbestos with the graphite has nevertheless not solved a problem relating to the variety of performance levels observed with these ~~«composite»~~ composite seals, i.e. in connecting graphite and metal. This is why, in very difficult applications, the ~~«all graphite»~~ all graphite seal very quickly dominated because not only does it show a high reproducibility of performance, but it also allows metal/metal contact between the flanges on the rings that demarcate the volume occupied by the graphite.

Please replace the paragraph at page 5, lines 1-3, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 1,~~in-section,~~ depicts a first type of ~~«fluted»~~ fluted seal, using the previous technology;

Please replace the paragraph at page 5, lines 4-6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 2,~~in-section,~~ depicts a second type of ~~«wavy»~~ wavy seal, using the previous technology;

Please replace the paragraph at page 5, lines 7-9, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 3,~~in-section~~ depicts a third type of ~~«spiralled»~~ spiralled seal, using the previous technology;

Please replace the paragraph at page 5, lines 10-12, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 4,~~in-section~~ depicts a fourth type of ~~«metalloplastic»~~ metalloplastic seal, using the previous technology;

Please replace the paragraph at page 5, lines 13-15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 5,~~in-section~~ depicts a fifth type of ~~«all-graphite»~~ all graphite seal, using the previous technology;

Please replace the paragraph at page 5, lines 16-18, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 6 ~~in section,~~ depicts a first implementation of the seal according to the invention;

Please replace the paragraph at page 5, lines 19-21, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 7 ~~in section,~~ depicts a second implementation of the seal according to the invention;

Please replace the paragraph at page 5, lines 22-24, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 8 ~~in section,~~ depicts a third implementation of the seal according to the invention;

Please replace the paragraph at page 5, lines 25-27, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 9 ~~in section,~~ depicts a fourth implementation of the seal according to the invention.